Curb, Dustin (DES)

From: T C <cyclwomn@yahoo.com>

Sent: Thursday, September 29, 2022 2:44 PM

To: DES SBCC

Subject: Testimony of Tracy Ceravolo re: Heat Pumps

External Email

My name is Tracy Ceravolo, and I live in Clark County.

Exxon's own scientists confirmed in the early 80's that the burning of fossil fuels was causing the climate to warm and stated that we needed to usher in an era away from fossil fuels. Let me restate that this was research paid for by Exxon over 40 years ago. We can all see that Exxon squashed that message and chose profits over morality.

We need to stop building homes that are reliant on fossil fuels. Heat pumps have a tremendously high Coefficient of Performance. Even at 0 degrees, their coefficient of performance is 2.2, which means that 1 unit of electricity is turned into 2.2 units of heat. At 32 degrees, one unit of electricity is turned into 3 units of heat. And at 52 degrees, one unit of electricity is turned into 4 units of heat! And new technologies are emerging to make heat pumps more efficient in cold weather.

As a bonus, heat pumps can also cool a home which is unfortunately a vital and life-saving tool during heat waves in this changing climate. We have heat pumps exclusively to heat our home and our rental, and we love them. They can keep us warm, cool, and even filter the air when forest fires create dangerous air quality.

On a personal level, my last home had methane gas for heating and cooking. I loved cooking on that gas stove! When I bought my current home and saw it was 100% electric, I thought I'd need to pull a gas line up the driveway just so I could buy a gas range. When I moved in and started cooking on the induction stove, I completely fell in love with it. I am an induction stove evangelist! It is instant like gas with no toxic fumes, easier to clean, and safer to operate.

I say this only to emphasize that we REALLY don't need fracked gas pulled into our homes. Those Exxon scientists would be shocked to learn that 40 years later, we'd be continuing our addiction to fossil fuels.

No one wants somebody to lose a job because of a government mandate. But if we didn't change with the times in our history, we would still have slavery to keep slave-traders employed. But we ended slavery because it was a moral imperative, not because it was easy. Keeping fracked gas out of our homes is not only the right moral decision but ALSO the right financial decision. The climate crisis is the most expensive, complex issue ever faced by humanity. It is causing untold misery through drought, flooding, sea level rise, desertification, forest fires, loss of crops, loss of property, and loss of life. It currently costs billions to deal with annually and will only get worse. It does not make ANY sense to continue use of fossil fuels from an economical argument. Gas is costing us tremendously.

I encourage you to adopt the proposed energy code updates. Thank you for hearing my testimony.

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